



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Substitute Bill No. 7175

* _____HB07175ED_APP032007_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPEN CHOICE PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 10-266aa of the general
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

4 (f) The Department of Education shall provide grants to regional
5 educational service centers or local or regional boards of education for
6 the reasonable cost of transportation for students participating in the
7 program. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year
8 thereafter, the department shall provide such grants within available
9 appropriations, provided the state-wide average of such grants does
10 not exceed an amount equal to [two thousand one hundred] three
11 thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each student transported,
12 except that the Commissioner of Education may grant to regional
13 educational service centers additional sums from funds remaining in
14 the appropriation for such transportation services if needed to offset
15 transportation costs that exceed such maximum amount. The regional
16 educational service centers shall provide reasonable transportation
17 services to high school students who wish to participate in supervised
18 extracurricular activities. For purposes of this section, the number of
19 students transported shall be determined on September first of each
20 fiscal year.

21 (g) The Department of Education shall provide, within available
 22 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
 23 education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two
 24 thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who
 25 attends school in the receiving district under the program. Each town
 26 which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall make such
 27 funds available to its local or regional board of education in
 28 supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal
 29 grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of
 30 education is entitled.

31 Sec. 2. Subsection (k) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is
 32 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 33 *1, 2007*):

34 (k) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of
 35 Education shall determine if the enrollment in the program pursuant
 36 to subsection (c) of this section for the fiscal year is below the number
 37 of students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner
 38 determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional
 39 funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner in
 40 accordance with this subsection. (1) Any amount up to [three] five
 41 hundred [fifty] thousand dollars of such nonlapsing funds shall be
 42 used for supplemental grants to receiving districts on a pro rata basis
 43 for each out-of-district student in the program pursuant to subsection
 44 (c) of this section who attends the same school in the receiving district
 45 as at least nine other such out-of-district students, not to exceed one
 46 thousand dollars per student. (2) Any remaining nonlapsing funds
 47 shall be used for interdistrict cooperative grants pursuant to section 10-
 48 74d.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-266aa(f) and (g)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-266aa(k)

ED

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP